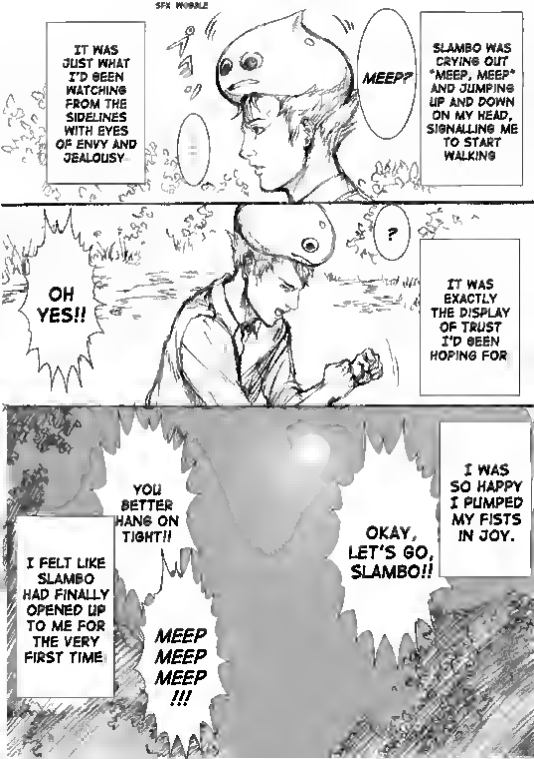
Volume 2
Chapter 19

OKAY, ACTUALLY, ALL I DID WAS LAY DOWN NEXT TO HIM AFTER HE'S FALLEN ASLEEP AND LEAVE AGAIN BEFORE HE WAKES UP.
FROM THEN ON, I STARTED SLEEPING NEXT TO SLAMBO EVERY NIGHT.
SFX: STRETCH
YAWN
I SEE...
I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE...
HMM...
ARE THINGS GOING WELL WITH YOU AND SLAMBO?
I TOLD YOU BEFORE AND I'LL SAY IT AGAIN. MONSTERS HAVE HEARTS JUST LIKE US HUMANS.
...BAKI

THOSE KIDS PROBABLY PICK UP ON A LOT MORE THAN YOU THINK
I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT
SFX: PAT
WELL, DON'T GET FULL OF YOURSELF NOW, BUT COMPARED TO BEFORE YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY ALREADY
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!

IN ANY CASE, ALL I CAN DO FOR NOW IS KEEP TRYING.
OR SO I TOLD MYSELF.
TODAY, I WENT OUT FOR A WALK WITH SLAMBO LIKE EVERY DAY.
WE'RE OFF THEN!
OKAY, BE SAFE.
SFX: BOUND
LOOK HOW NICE IT IS OUT TODAY, SLAM-
THAT'S WHEN ...
SFX: BEAM

SFX: PUNK
MEEP! MEEP!!
SFX: BOING BOING
MEEP MEEP MEEP MEEP
MEEP MEEP MEEP MEEP !!
SLAMBO JUMPED ONTO MY HEAD ALL OF A SUDDEN


SFX WOBBLE
IT WAS JUST WHAT I'D BEEN WATCHING FROM THE SIDELINES WITH EYES OF ENVY AND JEALOUSY
MEEP?
SLAMBO WAS CRYING OUT "MEEP, MEEP" AND JUMPING UP AND DOWN ON MY HEAD, SIGNALLING ME TO START WALKING
OH YES!!
?
IT WAS EXACTLY THE DISPLAY OF TRUST I'D BEEN HOPING FOR
I FELT LIKE SLAMBO HAD FINALLY OPENED UP TO ME FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME
YOU BETTER HANG ON TIGHT!!
MEEP MEEP MEEP !!!
OKAY, LET'S GO, SLAMBO!!
I WAS SO HAPPY I PUMPED MY FISTS IN JOY.

...!!
WE ENDED UP TAKING A LONGER WALK THAN USUAL ON THAT DAY AND GOT YELLED AT BY NILAM.
HE DIDN'T TRY TO RUN AWAY WHEN I PATTED HIM ON THE HEAD ANYMORE AND HE LISTENED TO ME (WELL, ONLY IF HE FELT LIKE IT)
HE'D ALSO STARTED COMING TO MY BED OF HIS OWN ACCORD WHEN HE WANTED TO GO TO SLEEP
SLAMBO HAD BECOME TOTALLY ATTACHED TO ME
IT WAS TIME FOR ME TO SAY GOODBYE TO SLAMBO
HOWEVER, AFTER MORE THAN HALF A YEAR SINCE I STARTED WORKING AT MONSTER GRAMPS' PLACE...
EVERYDAY WAS FUN.
SPENDING TIME WITH SLAMBO FELT LIKE SPENDING TIME WITH A GOOD FRIEND.

ACHOO!!
MY PLAN WAS TO KEEP TRAINING UNDER NIIAM UNTIL I'M SO GOOD ONE DAY THAT I CAN RECRUIT A DRAGON TO JOIN MY PARTY.
AS A MONSTER MASTER, I FELT LIKE I'D ALREADY BECOME A DEMON MASTER OR SOMETHING
UHH... STILL SO COLD...
SLAMBO IF YOU'RE GOING TO SLEEP, DO IT IN YOUR BED
SFX CRACKLE CRACKLE
SFX WOBBLE WOBBLE
EH SURE!
BAKI CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A MINUTE?
HEH

I HAVE DECIDED TO..
GIVE ONE OF MY MONSTERS TO YOU
!!?
ARE YOU SURE !?
YEAH, WELL, YOU'VE BEEN A GREAT HELP TO ME
AND I DON'T THINK ANY OF THOSE KIDS WILL COMPLAIN IF YOU'RE THEIR MASTER
THERE ARE TWO CONDI-TIONS THOUGH
...HEY, CUT IT OUT...
DON'T GET ALL QUIET ALL OF A SUDDEN

THE FIRST ONE IS, YOU MUST LEAVE MY PLACE
THE SECOND ONE IS ...
HEY
EH...?
!!?
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO PICK SLAMBO

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT ABOUT!?
WHA...
HEAR ME OUT FIRST
YOU SUDDENLY TELL ME TO LEAVE... WHY DO I HAVE TO PART WITH SLAMBO...
I'M NOT TELLING YOU TO LEAVE BECAUSE I'VE GROWN TO DISLIKE YOU OR SOMETHING
BUT I FEEL LIKE THERE ARE JOBS THAT ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR YOU
IF YOU'VE TRULY SET YOUR HEART ON MASTERING THE MONSTER MASTER JOB, I DON'T MIND YOU STAYING HERE FOR AS LONG AS YOU WANT

BESIDES, WEREN'T YOU ON A JOURNEY TO FIND THE HOME TOWN OF MR. PAPA OR WHATEVER HIS NAME WAS?
TOMDR-ROW...
I WAS
YEAH
A SHIP WILL SAIL FROM VISTA HARBOR AGAIN AFTER A YEAR OF DOWNTIME
YOU'D BETTER GET TO PACKING NOW.

I CAN'T LET THAT KID COME WITH YOU ON YOUR JOURNEY
SORRY, BUT YOU WILL HAVE TO LEAVE WITHOUT SLAMBO
...
NILAM!!
WHY NOT!?
I JUST CAN'T, AND THAT'S THE END OF IT

IN THE END, I COULDN'T BET MYSELF TO CHOOSE A MONSTER OTHER THAN SLAMBO
AND SO, I DECIDED TO SET OUT ALONE
I LEFT NILAM'S PLACE ..

Appendix:

Characters in chapter 19:

Baki

Nilam

Bunny girl

Slambo

Dora

Lacatians in chapter 19:

- Oracleberry (Fortuna)
- Vista Harbar (Littlehaven)